ber, 1984 to April, 1986. When the *airciaft* was initially contracted for, some of the weapons were under development/clearance by the manufacturers and it was stipulated in the agreement that these would be made available as and when they were cleared.

Selection of Non-Technical Group-Captains in IAF

2213. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether principle of natural justice is being observed in the selection of Non-Technical Group Captains in Indian Air Force in due consideration of (i) equivalent past performance of the aspirants since beginning of their career (ii) disposal of their grievance application to the satisfaction's of aggrieved officers (iii) award of discretionary weightage by the selection panel for any unfair advantage/handicap of one officer vis-a-vis other due to service conditions resulting in unequal advantage/disadvantage in respect of (a) continued stay of personnel over a long period at one place with same officer (b) changes of postings/appointments, initiating and Reviewing officers and (c) provision of simiar apportunities for individuals growth by the Organisation; and

(b) whether the selection panel obtain factual detads on these points and moderate the undue advantages/handicaps pertaining to individuals to put everyone on new equal footing without any bias?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Yes, Sir. The principle of natural jutice is being observed in the selection of non technical Group Captains in the IAF. (i) Appraisal reports and other relevant records of the officers for the past seven years are taken into account;

(ii) Disposal of grievance applications is done at the appropriate level based on the facts of the case and final decision is CO nmunicated to the officer.

(iii) (a) and (b) While awarding assessment marks, the Promotion Board takes into account the past posting profile of the officer as also the service" under respective Initiating and Reviewing Officers.

(c) Opportunities are provided to officers for their growth as dictated by the requirements of the Service.

(b) All relevant data and records are made available to the Promotion Board members when considering an officer for promotion.

SC/ST IAS Officers on the Panel of Secretaries add. Secretaries and Joint Secretaries

2214. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe I. A. S. Officers category-wise and year of allotment-wise, who by seniority are eligible for the posts of Secretaries, Additional Secretaries and Joint Secretaries in Government of India;

(b) what is the number of SC/ ST I. A. S. Officers categorywise and year of allotmentwise, who are on the panels for the posts of Secretaries, Additional Secretaries and Joint Secretaries and how many of them, inspite of offering their services to Government of India have been denied such postings due to them and the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that after about two decades of service, some